The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the Federal, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that may benefit the trade unions more directly.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 5, NO. 31. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1915. WHOLE NO. 239.

UNIONS REDUCE HOURS; ECONOMIC POWER BEST

Chicago, Oct. 30.—The shorter workday plan that gets results the best, writes President Perkins of the Cigar Makers' International union. This interest discusses eight-hour by law and eight hours through trade unions in the Cigar Makers' Official Journal, and shows that, as far as his organization is concerned, trade union methods have proven most effective.

"The question in so far as members of the International union (cigar-makers) are concerned, stripped of its academic and theory lore," he says, "worked as follows: Each local, by its own efforts in the trade union movement, we shortened the hours of labor to eight per day May 1, 1886, and with great satisfaction in so far as longevity and health are concerned. An effort to have done this through legislation in all probability would have found us still working ten or twelve hours a day and still fighting for the eight-hour work day. Since the adoption of the eight-hour system by us in 1886 the average length of life for members of the International union has increased about thirteen years, and the per cent of those who die from tuberculosis has been reduced from 51 per cent to 20 per cent, while the vitality, strength, and earning capacity of the members has been greatly augmented.

"Pine-spun theories, like castles in the air, are pleasant for some people to dream and think about, but actual, concrete results, which make for a better life, social and economic, are the things which count. In the matter of the shortening of the hours of labor we, have accomplished this without being bound, gagged, and delivered to the state."

MACHINE CHILDREN NOT GOOD CITIZENS

Syracuse, N. Y., Oct. 30.—Vocational training that teaches only shop work and makes the child a mere machine is not needed in this country, even though it is favored by most manufacturers and employers of labor, declared Prof. Roman of the Syracuse university in an address before the Schoolmasters' club. The educator pointed out the difference between a child that has developed into an efficient machine and one who possesses a knowledge of those things that result in citizenship as well as a manual skill.

"There has been a tendency," he said, "in some states to force upon the vocational school a curriculum that makes an efficient machine out of the child. The country does not need that kind of education. We are now producing more graduates than ever before in the history of the nation. Wealth is piling up faster. Everything is material except the question is, 'How can we make more goods and get more out?'

"If the vocational school is to meet the problem of the future welfare of the country, it must have at its head advanced training. It must teach the child the principles of democracy, citizenship, government and the proper use of its spare time and collective bargaining. At the time of production has increased the workers' hours have decreased. Ignorant of his civic duties and the fundamentals of good government, the workers are easy prey for the demagogue."

REFUSE TO ARBITRATE.

Clifton, Ariz., Oct. 26.—Copper mine operators have refused to arbitrate the demands of their striking employes for higher wages. The strike started last month. It was originally caused by the dismissal of workers who joined the union. Representatives of the miners submitted this plan for a settlement, which was rejected by the operators:

"All of the demands of the employes to be submitted to a board of arbitration. The men to return to work at their former wages pending the decision of the board of arbitration. When the board has rendered its decision the men shall have the advance in wages, if any, from the day they return to work. This difference to be paid on the first pay day after the board has decided on the scale, in a lump sum, in addition to the wages due for the past fifteen days. The members of this board to be appointed by the employes, two by the employes and a fifth member to be an employe of the department of labor, to be appointed by the secretary of labor, and the findings of this board to be final and binding on both parties."

BURBANK FAVORS CHILDREN.

Oakland, Cal., Oct. 30.—Child labor professes to be the friend of the weakling from Luther Burbank, who asks: "Isn't it as important for a nation to raise a good human crop as it is to raise good orchard.

In a speech before a conference of social workers, the naturalist declared that the first ten years of a child's life should be surrounded by sunshine, cheerfulness, love and laughter, because, he said, it is abnormal and cruel to run all children through the same mill and stuff and cram their little heads to the breaking point. The speaker said a child is a more sensitive than a plant and that there is not an attribute lacking in a plant that cannot be bred into it. The same is largely true of human nature, he said. Heredity will make itself felt first, but in child-rearing, heredity and environment are equally important. That there can be expected from children raised in dusty factories, crowded tenements and unventilated schools" the speaker said, "is to grow and then set fire to them by bad environment.

RIGOROUS HEALTH RULES.

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 30.—Details of the manner in which the child labor law will be enforced in this state after Jan. 1, and the plan for the examination of children, are announced in a bulletin issued by the division of industrial welfare.

Considerable attention is given to standards of physical fitness for guidance of physicians in examining children applicants for certificates. Minors suffering from tuberculosis, organic heart, Grave's disease, chronic nephritis, chronic infectious diseases, crooked tenements and unventilated schools" the speaker said, "is to grow and then set fire to them by bad environment.

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UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

Washington, Oct. 30.—The United States department of labor, through its bureau of labor statistics, publishes the results of the third study in the series of investigations being made into unemployment. The following 19 cities in the Pacific coast states were canvassed: Butte, Los Angeles, Oakland, Ogden, Portland, Sacramento, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma. In those cities 34,345 families were investigated, and the number of wage earners were found to be 49,338. The unemployed total 6,611, or 21.9 per cent, and the part-time wage earners are 9,811, or 20.2 per cent.

Portland, Ore., with 20 per cent, has the highest average of unemployed. Oakland, with 28.9 per cent, has the highest number of part-time wage earners. The lowest percentage of unemployed, 4.5, was found in Ogden. Butte reports the lowest number of part-time, wage earners, 12.7 per cent.

OBJECT TO SEAMEN'S ACT.

New York, Oct. 30.—At a meeting of the board of directors of the National Association of Manufacturers resolutions were adopted urging congress to reconsider the seamen's law, passed by the last congress, with a view to substantial amendment or repeal.

It is agreed that the bill contains many commendable features, but as the law stands now it will drive the United States flag off the high seas, and these business men. Objection is made to the language test which ends the practice of employing Chinese sailors and working them under Chinese conditions. The board of directors would re-establish old conditions, or as near thereto as is possible.

ASKS INCREASE OF $688,000.

Washington, Oct. 30.—The United States department of labor is the only self-supporting department is one of the reasons why Secretary of Labor Wilson will ask the incoming congress to appropriate an additional $688,000 to carry on various activities of that department. Secretary Wilson shows that the work of his department last year [illegible] in excess of [illegible] estimates total $4,371,370. At- [illegible] the increasing [illegible] cent in settling la- [illegible] by means of [illegible] $25,000 in

EIGHT HOURS IN CLEVELAND.

Cleveland, Oct. 30.—The Stearns Motor Car company has read the signs of the times correct in announcing that its 1,500 employes will hereafter work eight hours a day. This is a change in wage rates. Increasing trade union sentiment at this factory, the workers say, was a factor in the decision.

NEW UNION EXPANDS.

Wilmington, Del., Oct. 30.—The Boilermakers' union, the youngest in this city, is steadily increasing in membership and interest. Already there are over 100 enrolled; and it is believed this number will grow four-fold before the first of the year.

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BUSINESS AGENTS NECESSARY.

Toronto, Ontario, Oct. 30.—The Globe, of this city, is not impressed with the Rockefeller "union," nor with the promise to discriminate. Editorially this paper says:

"Agreements not to discriminate against workmen taking a prominent part on behalf of their fellows seldom or never work out in practice. Total, not partial, is the only effective remedy. Employers are always free to employ whom they please, and ultimately necessary to employ an agent to do their business and make their bargains, and he must be a man not in the ownership of an employe to their employers."

CAN'T REGULATE ATTORNEY FEE

Washington, Oct. 30.—Justice Gould of the District supreme court, has ruled that congress has no right to direct what par cent of a claim shall be given to lawyers. Thomas Fahey was voted $1,840 by congress. While this and similar bills were allowed, congress directed that attorneys for the claimants should not receive more than 20 per cent of the moneys. Fahey had previously signed a contract providing for 33 1-3 per cent and was sued by his attorneys for the difference. Justice Gould held that congress had no right to direct how the money should be spent.

BLACKSMITHS FORM UNIONS.

Chicago, Oct. 30.—President Kline of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers, reports the following unions have been organized during the year:

Canton, Chillicothe (reorganized) and Cleveland, Ohio; Fairmont, W. Va.; West Frankfort, Ill.; Warwick, N. Y.; [illegible]rst, Ind.; Wallingford and Bridgeport, Conn.; Spencer, Ind.; Monessen, [illegible]tsburgh, Pa.; Providence, R. I., Worcester.

[illegible]EN IN MISSOURI.

[illegible], Oct. 30.—In a state- [illegible] bureau of labor sta- [illegible] that only 836 women [illegible] in the state are paid [illegible]ek, and but 238 receive [illegible] ten thousand are paid [illegible]d $7, and 1,000 receive from [illegible] receive from $8 to $5 per

INCREASE FOR WIRE MEN.

Detroit, Oct. 30.—Organized electrical workers employed by the Edison Illuminating company have had their wages raised 5 per cent, making a total increase of 5 cents an hour since last June.

LAUNDRY WORKERS ORGANIZE.

Davenport, Iowa, Oct. 30.—Laundry workers have formed a union and received a charter from the international organization of this craft. The new local starts off with a good membership.

EASTERN EMPLOYERS INDORSE TRADE AGREEMENT THEORY

Worcester, Mass., Oct. 30.—Last week several large manufacturers of this state told the Massachusetts board of conciliation and arbitration that trade agreements with their workers created stability in industry. The board held hearings on eight-hour strikes in this city and brought to Worcester men who represented industries working under trade agreements. In no case did the visiting manufacturers express dissatisfaction with the trade agreement, and in every instance the witness testified that he would not return to the working conditions that existed prior to the adoption of the collective bargaining plan.

The testimony of these business men was in strange contrast to the declaration of Worcester captains of industry who have organized an association for the avowed purpose of conducting their plants on the non-union, or so-called "open shop" plan.

Richard Reed, a Worcester manufacturer of boilers and radiators, and member of the firm of H. D. Smith company, told the board that he wanted his men to be "good" unionists—to attend their union meetings and take an active part in the proceedings. He said:

"My employes believe one of the most honorable jobs is to be appointed on a shop committee to present their grievances. I want every man to feel that he can be a member of the shop committee without fear. I advise my men if they join a union to attend the meetings.

"With the Patternmakers' league I deal with a shop committee. I always recognize the shop committees, and hope that nobody stayed off the committee because he was afraid to go on.

"I had one experience with a committee. I asked its members if they had any authority, and was informed none further than the presentation of their requests. I told them to go back to the union and get some authority, so that I could talk with it. The men did. I want to tell you that there are some mighty good scrappers in these committees, and they tell you some things that you would never learn otherwise.

"I'll meet any kind of a committee, whether I can talk their language or not."

Mr. Reed has been in twenty-seven years ago he was privileged to sit in meeting in New York with the executives of the National Founders' association and a committee of executives of the Iron Molders' union.

"There were no troubles," said Mr. Reed, "between the employes and the employers. In that conference was effected what was known as the New York agreement, which operated in foundries in the United States and Canada."

Organizer Duffy asked the witness who and what was the cause of the abrogation of that New York agreement, and Mr. Reed said: "Mr. Briggs, secretary of the National Founders' association executive committee, was the cause for the abrogation of the agreement."

Alfred D. Denman, a Boston shoe manufacturer, and chairman of the state board of labor and industries, said he would not return to methods in force fifteen years ago. He said he would not care to take up individual bargaining.

"One reason why I should not want to throw over the present method," he said, "is because it insures us the guarantee that we can deliver a contract, because we know there will not be a strike or lockout. I can say that the hiring of help and its discharge is just the same with us today as it was fifteen years ago, prior to our agreement.

"Within the last month we made one of the greatest changes in our history. We gave a splendid opportunity to test the agreement. We did not agree on the price at first and in the arbitration the matter was adjusted to the satisfaction of all."

Herbert T. Drake of the Emerson shoe company, Brockton, testified his concern has the same working agreement as was explained by Mr. Donovan. The witness said the working agreement was signed in the fall of 1898 when the company employed 300 workers. Under the arbitration agreement the business built up so that now 2,500 are employed.

"The union does not interfere with our business and there is no trouble. We run our own business," said the witness. He also declared that "hours and wages are perfectly arbitrable."

Andrew G. Pierce, a textile manufacturer of New Bedford, said that 95 per cent of the manufacturers operating in southern Massachusetts were conducting their business along harmonious lines, accompanied by prosperity through the agreement and assistance of the trade agreement. He said the trade agreement his company had with the union was a guarantee that it would deliver its contracts. He further declared that he did not want to go back to the days of individual bargaining.

A FAMILIAR DECLARATION.

Worcester, Mass., Oct. 30.—"Professional agitators" are at work among working people of this city "for the purpose of changing conditions of employment," declares the Employers' association of Worcester county, which has voted to stand together for the so-called "open shop." It is stated that 100 employers are members of the association and these gentlemen are quite sure that "professional agitators" are responsible for workers demanding an eight-hour day and better working conditions. So the manufacturers announce their faith in nonunionism in this city. They declare that a reign of terror is imminent, they "pledge protection" to all employes who "desire to work as free and independent workers."

The resolutions are identical with hundreds of similar declarations by men who can't understand why "their" workers should be discontented but who insist on a shorter work day that can only be secured through a labor union.

Local trade unionists are comparing the facts of local manufacturers, which is resulting in numerous strikes, with the policy of prominent Massachusetts manufacturers, who find the plan of conciliation and arbitration, in session in this city last week, that trade agreements and conciliation committees were successful and that they would not revert to the old plan of individual bargaining because unions lived up to their contracts.

FREIGHT TRAFFIC IS LARGE.

New York, Oct. 30.—At the offices of the Erie railroad it was said that freight tonnage figure for last month showed that the business done in the trans-Atlantic liner is the largest recorded on the books of the company.

"Tonnage on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad has increased 40 per cent, it is said, within the past 90 days. The New Haven railroad is moving more freight today than it has moved for many months, and the New York Central lines report that business is so great that hundreds of extra men have been added to the force and that the most quick delivery of the several thousand cars recently ordered is being urged.

Steamship companies report the same condition and have pressed into service every possible craft to carry enormous cargoes that are offered. It is stated that it is no uncommon thing for a trans-Atlantic liner to be turned back to England within 48 hours after her arrival, an unusual procedure before the past few months.

ROCKFELLERS BAR UNIONS.

New York, Oct. 30.—Trade unions are kept out of the mines controlled by the Rockefellers in Colorado," said Prof. Hewitt, in his class at Columbia.

"If a labor agitator gets in these mines he is jailed for life.

"When John D. Rockefeller, jr., went to Colorado he took his press agent with him. He does not want union men in the mines. If you were a Rockefeller employe, asked by the son of the richest man in the world if unions should be barred in mines, how would you cast your ballot if your living depended on a favorable answer?

"Lawson did not get a square deal. What is American public opinion going to do about it? John D. Rockefeller, jr., will be condemned, but we've got to get Lawson out of jail."

HAVE RIGHT TO PICKET.

Omaha, Neb., Oct. 30.—Judge Foster dismissed several members of the Stereotyping Picture Operators' union who were charged with conspiracy. The court's excuse they picketed a nonunion theater. As it was proven the picketing was orderly and peaceful the court declared these unionists were within their rights.

CLERKS WANT EIGHT HOURS.

Boston, Oct. 30.—At a meeting of the adjustment board of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks employed by the Maine railroad it was voted to demand higher wages and an eight-hour day.

STRIKE FOR EIGHT HOURS.

Cleveland, Oct. 30.—Over 1,000 employes of the Peerless Motor company struck for an eight-hour day and other improved working conditions.

ARIZONA CLERKS ORGANIZE.

Tucson, Ariz., Oct. 30.—The retail clerks of this city have organized with a membership of 100.

REAL PUBLIC OWNERSHIP DEMANDED BY UNIONISTS

Detroit, Oct. 30.—At the last meeting of the Detroit Federation of Labor, its legislative committee gave little encouragement that it would succeed in passing a clause in the proposed municipal street car ordinance that would protect the trade union employes. The ordinance is now drawn there is no provision for arbitration, and the commission that would handle the franchise system is provided with dictatorial powers, without being responsible to the people's representatives.

The legislative committee is urging that the ordinance be amended so as to include collective bargaining with the various crafts, and that the newly created commission shall be empowered to settle all disputes that may arise between the street car men's union and the street car company before it. The unionists claim that this procedure is not unusual and furnished city officials with agreements now in force in Monroe, La., and Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

The central body supported the position of the committee. "Public ownership scheme to purchase the street railway system "designs to cloak the commission with authority independent of the city council."

FRATERNAL DELEGATES ARRIVE.

New York, Oct. 30.—Ernest Bevin and Charles W. Ammon, fraternal delegates from British trade unionists to the American Federation of Labor convention in San Francisco, arrived in this city last week. In discussing English conditions, Delegate Bevin said unionism in his country is strongly opposing the increasing number of women in industry because of the war. "The war," said he, "is the reason to be not introduced into factories and railway work at less pay than men get.

"Our fight against conscription is an economic one, having in view possible conditions after the war. While we have now represents more than 100 years of concerted action and work, and to ask us to give up these conditions and accept conscription is asking more than is required of employers and manufacturers."

Mr. Ammon is president of the Fawcett association (postoffice employes), and Mr. Bevin is organizer of the Dock, Wharf and Riverside Workers' union.

CHARTER IS NOT PERPETUAL.

Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 30.—The state supreme court has ruled against a street car company which claimed a perpetual right to use the public streets because there was no specified time for its termination included in the charter.

The case came up from Stark county, when Judge Haupt declared that the Northern Ohio Traction and Light company be ousted from doing business. The decision means that franchises are not perpetual unless the language in them clearly says so. The decision does not mean necessarily that the company will be required to tear up its tracks and quit business in that county, but that the county will be in a position to force upon the company a franchise that is agreeable to it.

STRIKE COMMISSION REJECTED.

St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 30.—The board of aldermen has unanimously rejected Mayor Kiel's plan to create a commission that would handle industrial disputes. Business influences supported the proposed ordinance, as did several civic organizations.

DEATH IN THE MINES.

Butte, Mont., Oct. 30.—The worst mining disaster ever known in this state occurred when 500 pounds of dynamite exploded at the properties of the North Butte mining company. Nine workers lost their lives, while many were severely injured.

SIGN WIRE MEN'S CONTRACT.

San Antonio, Tex., Oct. 30.—Members of Electrical Workers union No. 60 are jubilant over securing the signature of the Gas and Electric company to a one year contract. Former managers of this company maintained a different policy.

FIREMEN ORGANIZING.

Wheeling, W. Va., Oct. 30.—Members of the Stationary Firemen's union report a steady increase in membership and renewed interest among unorganized firemen.

PLIGHT OF PORTO RICANS.

Lake Mohonk, N. Y., Oct. 30.—Many claims by the American Federation of Labor that conditions in Porto Rico were repeated by Dr. D. W. May, superintendent of the Porto Rico experiment station, in an address before the conference on the Indian and other dependent peoples.

Dr. May said the population is on the verge of starvation, and that if being was a slow starvation there are many starving in the very streets.

"By far the large mass of the population lives in the country," he said, "They are of mixed breeds—Indian, Spanish, negro. They live in huts made of palm leaves, with dirt floors. These houses usually consist of two rooms and an outdoor kitchen—the furniture, a crude bench and one or two stools. Often the entire family sleep in one room on the floor. Through stress of poverty, they have practically given up the use of which beans and rice are the staples."

The speaker assured his audience that these workers are not oppressed or exploited. "The plantation owner is good to them, and as generous, usually, as his means will allow," he said.

It was further stated that "owing to the great amount of labor available and little organization," contractors in the cane fields are enabled to dictate their own terms. The commission was informed of the efforts made by these workers to organize and the attempts of contractors to defeat a recent strike of agricultural workers.

HAVE RIGHT TO DISCHARGE.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 30.—The criminal court of appeals has reversed the district court of Oklahoma county and annulled the law making it a misdemeanor for an employer to require employes to sign a contract not to become members of a labor union.

The district court fined Manager Bemis of the Oklahoma Railway company $200 for conviction of that offense. He threatened to discharge them if they joined the street car men's union. On appeal this decision was reversed. In his opinion Judge Anderson followed the decision of the United States supreme court, Jan. 28, 1915, when a majority of the supreme justices annulled a similar law, passed by the Kansas legislature. Since then the Ohio supreme court, on May 5, annulled the anti-coercion law of that state.

Hummel and Chapman, who take the position that the worker has the right to quit work for any cause or no cause, and the employer has the same right.

WANT GOVERNOR OUSTED.

Phoenix, Ariz., Oct. 26.—Petitions have been placed in circulation for the recall of Gov. Hunt, as a result of the present strike of copper miners at Clifton. The state's executive, it is claimed, declared that the grievances of these workers were just, and if he sent troops there the mine owners or any one who antagonized a settlement would be imprisoned.

Gov. Hunt's action is in variance with that of the neighboring state of Colorado that a demand for the governor's political head is heard in certain sections of the state. The recall petitions charge him with "inefficiency and a disregard for courts."

SECURE EIGHT-HOUR PAY.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 30.—After a three days' strike the Pittsburgh Machine Tool company at Braddock, near here, agreed to the eight-hour demand of striking employes. The eight-hour rate will prevail. Employes of the Miller Saw Trimmer company are also striking for an eight-hour day and increased wages, it being held between the interested parties.

STRIKE CALLED OFF.

Cleveland, Oct. 30.—A strike of workers employed by the J. W. Marks Construction company has been called off, a demand for better working conditions being agreed to. The company is erecting two large municipal structures.

URGES EARLY CLOSING.

Newark, N. J., Oct. 30.—Trade unionists are urging earlier Saturday night closing by employers in this city. The Essex Trades Council has appointed a committee to assist in the agitation.

NEW POST FOR PROF. NEARING.

Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 30.—Prof. Nearing, who was ousted by the University of Pennsylvania, has accepted a lecture ship in the municipal university of this city. He will teach economics and political and social science.

PROTECT FOUNDRY WORKERS

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 30.—A subdivision of the department of labor and industry has formulated safety regulations to protect workmen in foundries in this state.

Among the various provisions of the new regulations, it is required that from Nov. 1 to April 1 of each year, covered vestibules be erected at the entrance of foundries to prevent drafts of cold air that would endanger the health of the workmen.

Mechanical means of ventilation must be installed in foundries where steam, gases or dust arise to endanger the health or eyes of the workers and where a natural ventilation of air does not carry off such gases. Cleaning and chipping of castings must be done in cleaning rooms or behind curtains or screens to protect the employes from flying particles.

Suitable facilities must be provided in every foundry for the thorough drying of employes' clothing. Dressing rooms must be provided for employes and placed in charge of properly trained persons during cold weather. Washroom equipment must be provided in proportion to the number of employes as per the tables included in the foundry regulations of the industrial board.

Women working in core making rooms of foundries shall not be allowed to handle materials which have a temperature of more than 110 degrees Fahrenheit, nor will they be permitted to make or handle cores when the combined weight of core box and plate exceeds 15 pounds.

BAD BUSINESS IS NO BAR.

Washington, Oct. 30.—The United States supreme court has ruled that immigration officials cannot bar immigrants on the ground that industrial depressions are likely to cause them to become public charges. The case came up on appeal from the case of where immigration officials ruled that several Russians, bound for Portland, Ore., should not be admitted as long as reports showed business was bad in that city and the aliens would, in all probability, fail to secure employment, and accordingly were "likely to become a public charge." Attorneys for the Russians held that immigration officials were restricted in their powers and that they had no authority to debar or deport except as specifically indicated by the law. The court upheld the position in a decision which will rendhr less elastic in the future the provisions of the law under which many aliens have been denied admission and others excluded on the ground that they "were likely to become a public charge."

TOO MUCH LAW REGULATION.

Cincinnati, Oct. 30.—At a conference of the state in this city, Chief Justice T. Botkin, Kansas secretary of state, urged centralization and simplification of laws. "Too much legislation is the cause of numerous boards, "which," he said, "govern, inspect, supervise, regulate and control the people almost from cradle to the grave."

Beginning at 15 or 20 years ago, he said, many legislatures entered upon an era he termed "legislative adventure." Each session there was added a series of laws "which, in their ramifications, reach out and embrace practically every phase from the birth to population of women's hat pins to the workers to organize and the attempts of contractors to defeat a recent strike of agricultural workers.

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Hummel and Chapman, who take the position that the worker has the right to quit work for any cause or no cause, and the employer has the same right.

WANT GOVERNOR OUSTED.

Phoenix, Ariz., Oct. 26.—Petitions have been placed in circulation for the recall of Gov. Hunt, as a result of the present strike of copper miners at Clifton. The state's executive, it is claimed, declared that the grievances of these workers were just, and if he sent troops there the mine owners or any one who antagonized a settlement would be imprisoned.

Gov. Hunt's action is in variance with that of the neighboring state of Colorado that a demand for the governor's political head is heard in certain sections of the state. The recall petitions charge him with "inefficiency and a disregard for courts."

SECURE EIGHT-HOUR PAY.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Oct. 30.—After a three days' strike the Pittsburgh Machine Tool company at Braddock, near here, agreed to the eight-hour demand of striking employes. The eight-hour rate will prevail. Employes of the Miller Saw Trimmer company are also striking for an eight-hour day and increased wages, it being held between the interested parties.

STRIKE CALLED OFF.

Cleveland, Oct. 30.—A strike of workers employed by the J. W. Marks Construction company has been called off, a demand for better working conditions being agreed to. The company is erecting two large municipal structures.

URGES EARLY CLOSING.

Newark, N. J., Oct. 30.—Trade unionists are urging earlier Saturday night closing by employers in this city. The Essex Trades Council has appointed a committee to assist in the agitation.

NEW POST FOR PROF. NEARING.

Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 30.—Prof. Nearing, who was ousted by the University of Pennsylvania, has accepted a lecture ship in the municipal university of this city. He will teach economics and political and social science.

WORLD'S WORKERS PLEAD FOR UNITY

Letters Show War Has Not Chilled Brotherhood Spirit.

A. F. OF L. CONFERENCE PLAN AT CLOSE OF WAR IS FAVORED

President Gompers Declared to be "Head and Father of the English-Speaking Trade Union Movement."

Washington, Oct. 30.—In the November issue of American Federationist President Gompers publishes correspondence between himself and representatives of trade union centers throughout the world during the present war. In his introduction he says these letters "reveal the strength of the fraternal ties that still bind the workers even of the warring nations," and that communication between the representatives of labor in the several countries "has not been with little interference."

At the close of the Philadelphia convention, last year, President Gompers invited the trade union centers of the world to the approaching unionists, favoring a conference of world's labor unionists after the war closed, to be held at the same time and place where the diplomats convened, for the purpose of laying down the democratic ideals may be included in any settlement agreed to.

Copies of letters that passed between the trade union groups were sent in favor to President Gompers, and the correspondence now published for the first time indicates the depth of the feeling existing between these toilers, despite the European carnage.

The principal actors in this silent but thrilling drama, staged by the world's workers, are President Gompers, representing the North American trade union movement; Secretary Legien, international secretary of trade unions, Germany; Secretary Appleton, general federation of trade unions, England; Secretary Jouhaux, confederation generale du travail, France; Secretary Rigola, Italian trade unionists, Milan; President Oudegeest, federation of trade unions, Holland; Secretary Gray, Trades Council, Melbourne, Australia, and Secretary Crawford, South African Industrial Federation, Johannesburg.

The letters of these unionists clearly indicate that the war has but increased the ties of brotherhood and helpfulness between the world's men and women of toil. This is shown by Secretary Legien, who addresses Secretary Appleton as "My Dear Appleton," and in parting sends fraternity and good will to the British trade unionists. In Appleton's letters to Legien he addresses him as "Comrade."

Secretary Jouhaux writes President Gompers that the French unionists have no hesitation in inviting to hold an international conference at the close of the war. Jouhaux incloses a circular which is being sent to the French workers. The letter closes: "Long live international, always and everywhere!"

Legien writes to Appleton in which he expresses his appreciation of Jouhaux's views and assures the British unionists that he is convinced that there will be little difficulty in reconciliation and even strengthen the trade union movement internationally in the space of time after the war is over. For are we not all depending on each other? "If we desire to attain our ends."

Appleton tells Legien of his visit to a number of German prisoners' camps and against the doctrine of hate.

Secretary Oudegeest urges Appleton: "Especially in these terrible times we on our part do everything in our power to keep up international relations as well as we possibly can."

Appleton and Jouhaux suggest to President Gompers that the headquarters of the International Federation of trade unions be temporarily removed from Germany to a neutral country because at present it is almost impossible to freely communicate with Germany.

The British and French unionists plead that "there is not the slightest personal feeling against Legien," and that "we are aware that it would be so seriously consider what is suggested" in the Oudegeest letter, and "to act in the interest of international trade unionism than Samuel Gompers, the president of modern labor." "You will understand our anxiety to maintain, irrespective of personal ties, our relations with Germany."

In another letter Appleton pays a tribute to the "life work" of Gompers in trade union movement in the following personal tribute to President Gompers:

"Whenever and as soon as it (the war) terminates, I trust you, whom I always regard as the head and father of the English-speaking trade union movement, will initiate steps for the reconstruction of the international side of it."

The correspondence shows the bonds of brotherhood between unionists of the world, many of whom are personally known and visited by the leaders of other countries, and while losing $1,000,000 the first year, certain adjustments and improvements will materialize profits to normal in about three years.

DEMAND EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Baltimore, Oct. 30.—Machinists employed by the Detrick & Harvey Machine company are on strike for the eight-hour day and time and one-half for overtime. It is claimed this company is dealing with the Bethlehem Steel company.

PAINTERS SUBMIT NEW SCALE.

Cleveland, Oct. 30.—Painters' unions, through their district council, have submitted a new scale to contractors, which calls for 60 and 65 cents an hour. The present rates are 55 and 60 cents.

SECURE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 30.—Machinists employed by the Consolidated Manufacturing company have won their strike and an eight-hour day. Former nine-hour rates will prevail.

POLISHERS REDUCE HOURS.

Newark, N. J., Oct. 30.—Members of the Metal Polishers' union employed in the chandelier shops have reduced hours from 54 to 48½ per week. Nearly 100 workers are benefited.

NO SEWERS FOR 7,000 HOUSES.

Philadelphia, Oct. 30.—The social service committee of a local church reports that there are 30 miles of streets in this city without sewers and that 7,000 houses are deprived or underdrainage on account of a lack of sewers. It is estimated that 50,000 citizens are affected by the unsanitary conditions and that the health of 50,000 citizens is endangered by the methods of those unsrained sections is imperilled.

UNITE FOR AGITATION.

Worcester, Mass., Oct. 27.—Grocery and provision houses are closed at the request of their clerks for a Wednesday half holiday and at a mass meeting of these workers it was voted to continue the agitation. Speakers pointed out that they were closer to the housewife than the storekeeper, and if each clerk did his part a sentiment could be quickly created that no grocery would dare remain open.